

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT Changes in the Organization of the East German Railroads

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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contrary to recent rumor, the Reichsbahn would not become a ministry but would, in fact, become a department of the Ministry of Transport.¹ As such, it would require no administrative department of its own.

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2. Roman Chwalek, Minister of Labor, will probably be appointed head of the future Unterabteilung Eisenbahn; Erwin Kramer, at present General Director of the East German Railroads, will probably be appointed Staatssekretaer.

3. [] on 1 March 1953, a special agency known as the Bahnbevollmaechtigter (BBV)² (sic) was set up within the Reichsbahn. Richard Staimer, former deputy to Erwin Kramer, was appointed chief of this agency. Staimer was given the rank of Generaloberst in the Volkspolizei, probably General-Major. The purpose of the special agency is to coordinate and supervise all military transports.

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1. [] Comment: Other informants maintain that the Deutsche Reichsbahn Generaldirektion will become a Ministry for Railroads, and that it is the present Ministry of Transport which will disappear.

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2. [] Comment: [] the Germans had a similar arrangement during World War II for all railroad districts; the head of each unit, a Reichsbahnrat, was also a military officer. Each unit dealt solely with military traffic. Contrary to this wartime practice, the only office affected at present is the General Directorate, the RBDs having received no orders on the subject.

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25 YEAR
RE-REVIEW

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2. Comment: The establishment of a Bahnbevollmaechtigter Buero, (sic), headed by Hanschke (fnu), was reported
3. Comment: Richard Staimer was reported to be Director General of the East German Railroads

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